

Message Text

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TO USICA WASHDC PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6044

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

CINCPAC HONOLULU

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FOR STATE FOR EA/ANZ, CINCPAC FOR USICA ADVISOR

EO 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT

1. THE UNITED STATES FEATURED REGULARLY ON CABLE PAGES AND OVERSEAS TELEVISION AND RADIO BROADCASTS THIS WEEK. THE MEDIA COVERED VANCE'S NEW FORAY INTO THE MIDDLE EAST AND PRESIDENT CARTER'S PLANS TO MEET BEGIN AND SADAT; THE FALLING AMERICAN DOLLAR; MADE PASSING COMMENT ON THE OPENING OF THE ASEAN MEETING; HEADLINED THE JAILING OF THE "NEW YORK TIMES" REPORTER; AND MENTIONED THE VENUS PROBE LAUNCH AND THE GSO FRAUD INVESTIGATION.

2. TELEVISION TWO FEATURED THE RUSSIAN SPACE RECORD IN A NEWS SPECIAL, NOTING THAT COUNTRY'S SPACE "FIRSTS". IT DWELT ON THE APOLLO XI MOON LANDING, BUT THEN NOTED THAT RUSSIA'S CURRENT SPACE ACHIEVEMENTS WERE MORE TELLING THAN THE UNITED STATE'S PRESENT PROGRESS INTO SPACE WITH THE SHUTTLE PROGRAM.

3. TELEVISION ONE COMMENTED ON PROBLEMS AN IMPORTANT NEW ZEALAND FRUIT CROP, "KIWIFRUIT", WAS HAVING IN CON-
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TINUING ACCESS TO THE AMERICAN MARKET DUE TO THE U.S. LACKING REGULATION INDICATING AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL FOR THE INSECTICIDE WHICH IS USED ON THE FRUIT.

4. NEW ZEALAND'S EXPORT-IMPORT CORPORATION ANNOUNCED THE OPENING OF A TRADE OFFICE IN LOS ANGELES TO HELP BOOST THE PROPOSED WEST COAST TRADE DRIVE LATER IN THE

YEAR, AND JAPANESE AND NEW ZEALAND NEGOTIATING PARTIES CAME CLOSE TO AGREEMENT ON JAPANESE ACCESS TO NEW ZEALAND'S 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE. HOWEVER, THE INITIALING CEREMONY WAS POSTPONED INDICATING AGREEMENT WAS STILL NOT COMPLETE.

5. WITH THE GOVERNMENT PLACING POLITICAL ACTIVITY RESTRICTIONS ON NORTH KOREAN VISITORS, AFRICAN STUDENTS, AND THE LEADER OF THE FRETILIN MOVEMENT IN EAST TIMOR, WHILE THEY ARE IN THE COUNTRY, THE "HEARLD", "PRESS", AND "EVENING POST" HAVE COMMENTED ON WHAT APPEARS TO BE AN ATTACK ON THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH. THE "POST" SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE "PROVIDES AN INTERESTING CONTRAST WITH THE ATTITUDE IN THE UNITED STATES WHERE LAST JUNE, MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL SOCIALIST PARTY OF AMERICA WERE ALLOWED TO GO AHEAD WITH A RALLY IN CHICAGO, NO MATTER HOW REPUGNANT A RESURGENCE OF THE NAZI MOVEMENT MUST BE TO THE VAST MAJORITY OF AMERICANS."

6. IN THE BUILD-UP TO THE ELECTIONS LATER IN THE YEAR, A POLL SHOWED THAT THE REIGNING NATIONAL PARTY ENJOYED AN 11 PER CENT LEAD OVER ITS MAIN RIVALS, THE LABOUR PARTY, AND THIS GAIN HAD BEEN MAINLY AT THE EXPENSE OF THE MINORITY SOCIAL CREDIT GROUP.

7. TWO VTRS ON ECONOMIC ISSUES WERE SCREENED AT THE WELLINGTON CENTER THE PAST WEEK. AT ONE SCREENING, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NEW ZEALAND ECONOMISTS SOCIETY PRE-UNCLASSIFIED

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VIEWED THE PAUL SAMUELSON VTR, "NEW TRENDS IN ANALYTICAL ECONOMICS: A BIRDSEYE VIEW," WHICH WILL BE USED IN AN ELECTRONIC DIALOGUE WITH SAMUELSON AND THE SOCIETY LATER THIS MONTH. ANOTHER GROUP, COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY SAW "VIEWPOINT: TRADE ISSUES."

8. USDA OFFICIAL, PHILIP L. MACKIE, ARRIVED IN WELLINGTON ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 6. AFTER A DAY OF BRIEFINGS AT THE EMBASSY, MR MACKIE BEGAN HIS SCHEDULE ON TUESDAY (PROJECT NZ-04). THIS INCLUDED A MEETING WITH THE NZ DAIRY BOARD OFFICIALS, AN INVITED LUNCHEON AND ANOTHER MEETING WITH THE MEAT PRODUCERS BOARD AND THE MEAT AND WOOL PRODUCERS ECONOMIC SERVICE. ON WEDNESDAY, MACKIE WENT TO CHRISTCHURCH WHERE HE TALKED TO SENIOR AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS STUDENTS AT LINCOLN COLLEGE ON U.S.-N.Z. AGRICULTURAL TRADE RELATIONS, FOLLOWED BY A LUNCHEON AND LECTURE AND DISCUSSIONS ON THE SAME SUBJECT WITH THE CHRISTCHURCH ECONOMICS SOCIETY. TODAY, HE IS MEETING WITH MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE OFFICIALS, FEDERATED FARMERS REPRESENTATIVES AND OFFICIALS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY. MR MACKIE HAS ALREADY APPEARED IN PRINT AND

ON TV NEWS PROGRAMS AND HAS HAD OTHER INTERVIEWS WHICH WILL APPEAR LATER. HIS PROGRAM IN NEW ZEALAND CONTINUES UNTIL NEXT TUESDAY.

9. POST ASSISTED THE EMBASSY'S COMMERCIAL SECTION IN STAGING TWO TRAVEL SEMINARS THIS WEEK, MONDAY IN CHRISTCHURCH AND WEDNESDAY IN WELLINGTON. IN ADDITION TO OFFERING ITS FACILITIES, THE VTR "TOUR USA" WAS SCREENED TO THE 25 TRAVEL REPRESENTATIVES IN CHRISTCHURCH AND THE 31 REPRESENTATIVES IN WELLINGTON.

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10. IN CHRISTCHURCH, THE VTR, "PEOPLE AND POLITICS - A CONVERSATION WITH JIMMY CARTER," WAS SCREENED AT THE PROFESSOR'S REQUEST TO A POLITICAL SCIENCE AMERICAN STUDIES GROUP FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY. A TOTAL OF 35 STUDENTS VIEWED THE PROGRAM AND BOTH REACTION AND INTEREST WAS GOOD, THE VTR BEING CONSIDERED BOTH INTERESTING AND TOPICAL FOR STUDENT DISCUSSION.

11. A LECTURER FROM THE AUCKLAND TECHNICAL INSTITUTE HELD THREE CLASSES AT THE AUCKLAND CENTER DURING THE WEEK WITH A TOTAL OF 26 STUDENTS. ENGINEERING, COMPUTER AND COMMERCE STUDENTS TOOK PART IN THE SESSIONS IN ENERGY STUDIES. AT EACH OF THE THREE SESSIONS, THE VTRS, "WE WILL FREEZE IN THE DARK," AND THE OCTOBER 1977 "ISSUES AND ANSWERS: JAMES SCHLESINGER," WERE SHOWN.

12. ALSO IN AUCKLAND, THE FILM "ANTONIA: PORTRAIT OF A WOMAN," WAS PROGRAMMED BY THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS. FIFTY

STUDENTS IN THE FILM STUDIES COURSE VIEWED THE FILM.

13. POST REQUESTED FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE FOR TWO
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NEW ZEALANDERS VISITING THE U.S. THE PAST WEEK. ONE, MS BEVERLEY WAKEM, HEAD OF PROGRAM SERVICES FOR RADIO NEW ZEALAND, IS ALSO A MEMBER OF NEW ZEALAND'S COMMISSION FOR THE FUTURE. SHE REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN HER LATTER CAPACITY TO MEET WITH SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS IN WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK. THE OTHER REQUEST WAS FOR A SENIOR TV-1 PRODUCER/DIRECTOR, MS DEIDRE MCCARTIN, WHO WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH PRODUCER/DIRECTORS IN COMMERCIAL AND PUBLIC TV, ESPECIALLY THOSE WORKING IN THE SOCIAL DOCUMENTARY FIELD.

14. REGIONAL LIBRARIAN DONALD HAUSRATH ARRIVED IN WELLINGTON LATE TUESDAY FOR TWO DAYS IN WELLINGTON AND ONE IN AUCKLAND. ALTHOUGH HERE FOR SUCH A SHORT TIME, THE POST HAS ALREADY BENEFITED CONSIDERABLY FROM HIS EXPERT ADVICE. HOPEFULLY ON HIS RETURN TRIP THROUGH FIJI, MR HAUSRATH WILL BE ABLE TO SPEND SOME MORE TIME IN BOTH WELLINGTON AND AUCKLAND FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS.
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